

105TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 2992

To repeal the Goals 2000: Educate America Act and the National Skill Standards Act of 1994 to allow local areas to develop elementary and secondary education programs that meet their needs.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 9, 1997

Mr. GRAHAM (for himself, Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. HILLEARY, Mr. INGLIS of South Carolina, Mr. WAMP, Mr. NORWOOD, Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland, Mr. TAYLOR of North Carolina, Mr. STUMP, Mr. HERGER, Mr. MILLER of Florida, Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma, Mr. ISTOOK, Mrs. LINDA SMITH of Washington, Mr. TALENT, Mr. THORNBERRY, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. SPENCE, Mr. SANFORD, Mr. TIAHRT, Mr. KNOLLENBERG, Mrs. MYRICK, Mr. HEFLEY, Mr. SOLOMON, Mr. BARTON of Texas, Mr. PITTS, Ms. DUNN, Mr. SALMON, Mr. SHADEGG, Mr. LARGENT, Mr. BACHUS, Mr. BALLENGER, Mr. DICKEY, Mr. BLUNT, Mrs. EMERSON, Mr. LAHOOD, Mr. McKEON, Mr. RADANOVICH, Mr. ROHRABACHER, Mr. COX of California, Mr. SENSENBRENNER, Mr. HUTCHINSON, Mr. HOSTETTLER, Mr. BOB SCHAFER of Colorado, Mr. PETERSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. SOUDER, Mr. McINTOSH, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. ROYCE, Mr. WELDON of Florida, and Mr. NETHERCUTT) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

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## A BILL

To repeal the Goals 2000: Educate America Act and the National Skill Standards Act of 1994 to allow local areas to develop elementary and secondary education programs that meet their needs.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Parents and Teachers  
3 Know Best Act of 1997”.

4 **SEC. 2. PURPOSE.**

5 The purpose of this Act is to repeal the Goals 2000:  
6 Educate America Act and the National Skill Standards  
7 Act of 1994 to allow local educational areas to use funds  
8 to continue or establish education programs that meet the  
9 unique needs of such areas.

10 **SEC. 3. REPEALS.**

11 The Goals 2000: Educate America Act and the Na-  
12 tional Skill Standards Act of 1994 are repealed.

13 **SEC. 4. ALLOTMENT; DISTRIBUTION.**

14 (a) RESERVATION.—From the amounts made avail-  
15 able to carry out this Act, the Secretary of Education shall  
16 reserve not more than—

17 (1) one-half of one percent for payments to out-  
18 lying areas to be allotted in accordance with the re-  
19 spective needs of such areas; and

20 (2) one-half of one percent for payments to the  
21 Secretary of the Interior to carry out programs  
22 under this Act for Indian tribes.

23 (b) ALLOTMENT AND DISTRIBUTION.—

24 (1) STATE ALLOTMENT.—From the amount ap-  
25 propriated under section 7 and not reserved under  
26 subsection (a) in each fiscal year, the Secretary shall

1 make allotments to State educational agencies that  
2 request to receive a grant under this Act as follows:

3 (A) 50 percent of such amount shall be al-  
4 located in accordance with the relative amounts  
5 each State would have received under title I of  
6 the Elementary and Secondary Education Act  
7 of 1965 for the preceding fiscal year if funds  
8 under such title for such preceding fiscal year  
9 had not been reserved for outlying areas.

10 (B) 50 percent of such amount shall be al-  
11 located in accordance with the relative amounts  
12 each State would have received under title VI of  
13 the Elementary and Secondary Education Act  
14 of 1965 for the preceding fiscal year if funds  
15 under such title for such preceding fiscal year  
16 had not been reserved for outlying areas.

17 (2) LOCAL DISTRIBUTION.—Each State edu-  
18 cational agency shall distribute to each local edu-  
19 cational agency in such State that requests to re-  
20 ceive a grant under this Act an amount which bears  
21 the same ratio to the amount such State educational  
22 agency received under paragraph (1) as the school-  
23 age population of the geographic area under the ju-  
24 risdiction of the local educational agency bears to  
25 the school-age population of such State.

1 **SEC. 5. USES OF FUNDS.**

2 Funds received under this Act may be used for the  
3 following purposes:

4 (1) **TECHNOLOGY.**—Technology related to the  
5 implementation of school-based reform programs, in-  
6 cluding professional development to assist teachers  
7 and other school officials regarding how to use effec-  
8 tively such equipment and software.

9 (2) **EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS.**—Programs for  
10 the acquisition and use of instructional and edu-  
11 cational materials, including library services and ma-  
12 terials (including media materials), assessments, ref-  
13 erence materials, computer software and hardware  
14 for instructional use, and other curricular materials  
15 which are tied to high academic standards and  
16 which will be used to improve student achievement  
17 and which are part of an overall education reform  
18 program.

19 (3) **REFORM.**—Promising education reform  
20 projects, including effective schools and magnet  
21 schools.

22 (4) **IMPROVED THINKING SKILLS.**—Programs to  
23 improve the higher order thinking skills of disadvan-  
24 tagged elementary and secondary school students and  
25 to prevent students from dropping out of school.

1           (5) LITERACY PROGRAMS.—Programs to com-  
2       bat illiteracy in the student and adult population, in-  
3       cluding parent illiteracy.

4           (6) GIFTED AND TALENTED PROGRAMS.—Pro-  
5       grams to provide for the educational needs of gifted  
6       and talented children.

7           (7) SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMS.—School  
8       improvement programs or activities under sections  
9       1116 and 1117 of the Elementary and Secondary  
10      Education Act of 1965.

11 **SEC. 6. DEFINITIONS.**

12      For purposes of this Act—

13           (1) the term “Indian tribe” means any Indian  
14      tribe, band, nation, or other organized group or com-  
15      munity, including any Alaska Native village or re-  
16      gional corporation as defined in or established pur-  
17      suant to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act,  
18      which is recognized as eligible for the special pro-  
19      grams and services provided by the United States to  
20      Indians because of their status as Indians;

21           (2) the term “local educational agency” shall  
22      have the meaning given such term in section 14101  
23      of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of  
24      1965;

1           (3) the term “outlying areas” means Guam,  
2           American Samoa, the Virgin Islands, the Republic of  
3           the Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micro-  
4           nesia, the Republic of Palau, and the Commonwealth  
5           of the Northern Mariana Islands;

6           (4) the term “school-age population” means the  
7           population in a geographic area aged 5 through 17;

8           (5) the term “State” means each of the 50  
9           States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth  
10          of Puerto Rico, but does not include the outlying  
11          areas or Indian tribes; and

12          (6) the term “State educational agency” means  
13          the agency in a State primarily responsible for the  
14          State supervision of public elementary and secondary  
15          schools.

16 **SEC. 7. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

17          There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out  
18          this Act an amount equal to the amounts most recently  
19          appropriated to carry out the Goals 2000: Educate Amer-  
20          ica Act and the National Skill Standards Act of 1994 as  
21          of the date of the enactment of this Act.

1 **SEC. 8. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

2       This Act shall take effect on the first day of the first  
3 fiscal year following the fiscal year in which this Act is  
4 enacted.

